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DE RUEHQT #0055 0091208
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 091208Z JAN 07
FM AMEMBASSY QUITO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6028
INFO RUCPDO/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEHAC/AMEMBASSY ASUNCION PRIORITY 0232
RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY 6304
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY 3694
RUEHBU/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES PRIORITY 0713
RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY 2260
RUEHLP/AMEMBASSY LA PAZ JAN 0309
RUEHPE/AMEMBASSY LIMA PRIORITY 1268
RUEHRB/AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY 0221
RUEHSG/AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO PRIORITY 3027
RUEHGL/AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL PRIORITY 1660
RHMFISS/CDR USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL

UNCLAS QUITO 000055

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE
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E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [EC](#)
SUBJECT: CORREA INAUGURATION: PRESIDENTS OF IRAN AND
POLISARIO FRONT EXPECTED

11. (U) Summary: Nine chiefs of state will reportedly attend the inauguration of Rafael Correa as Ecuador's president on January 14-15, including Iranian president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and Mohammed Abdelaziz, president of the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic, or Polisario Front of Western Sahara. The Colombian Embassy tells us that no decision has yet been confirmed with respect to the attendance of President Uribe. End Summary.

12. (SBU) Invitations were sent to all heads of state by outgoing president Alfredo Palacio, presumably including Iran and the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic.

13. (SBU) Press report the following heads of state have confirmed their attendance at the January 14-15 ceremonies.

-- Venezuela: Pres. Hugo Chavez
-- Chile: Pres. Michelle Bachelet
-- Bolivia: Pres. Evo Morales
-- Paraguay: Pres. Nicanor Duarte
-- Brazil: Pres. Luiz "Lula" da Silva
-- Peru: Pres. Alan Garcia
-- Argentina: Pres. Nestor Kirchner
-- Iran: Pres. Mahmoud Ahmadinejad
-- Western Sahara: Pres. Mohammed Abdelaziz

14. (SBU) Other confirmed attendees include OAS SecGen Jose Miguel Insulza, ministers from Italy, Korea, Netherlands, Belgium, Syria, China, and the Holy See. Denmark, Switzerland, Sweden, Greece, Turkey, Australia, Austria, Canada and Ukraine will be represented by ambassadors.

15. (SBU) Ecuador recognized the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic on November 14, 1983; withdrew recognition during the government of President Lucio Gutierrez on June 19, 2004; and renewed its recognition during the government of President Palacio on February 8, 2006.

16. (SBU) The Ahmadinejad visit would be the first by a president of Iran to Ecuador, and follows a visit in 2005 by Iran's VFM for Europe and the Americas, Said Jalili, in October 2005.
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